



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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November 10, 2009

The Honorable Robert Menendez
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Menendez:

Thank you for providing me with a copy of your letter to President Obama regarding the airport traffic control tower (ATCT) project at Teterboro Airport.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) assessed the condition of the Teterboro ATCT in October 2008 and determined there were deficiencies at the facility. These included line of sight issues, tower leaks, insufficient cab space, and numerous building code violations. In light of these deficiencies, the Department plans to replace Teterboro's ATCT. We expect to award a project design contract in 2011, award a construction contract in 2013, and commission a new ATCT in 2016.

As you mentioned, construction of a new ATCT at the Teterboro Airport will complement investments that have already been made in new taxiways, new lighting, and the installation of the Engineering Materials Arresting System for the airport's runways. In addition, FAA has instituted new Hudson River airspace guidelines that will improve aviation safety over the Hudson River and in the New York City metropolitan area.

If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely yours,

Ray LaHood

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Ray LaHood", is written over the typed name and extends across the lower right portion of the page.